

ORIGINAL DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: THAT my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; THAT I believe I am the original, first and sole (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Method and Apparatus for Welding With A Trigger Hold of the specification of which was filed on April 1, 1999 as Application No. 09/283,523;

THAT, I do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention or discovery thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention or discovery thereof, or more than one year prior to the effective date of this application;

THAT the invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America for more than one year prior to the effective date of this application;

THAT this invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the effective date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months before the effective date of this application;

THAT I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above;

THAT I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, of which I am aware, which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR Sec. 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent;

And I hereby appoint, as my attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent:

George R. Corrigan (Reg. No. 34,803)  
Corrigan Law Office  
5 Briarcliff Ct  
Appleton, WI 54915

telephone number (920) 954-1099, to whom all communications regarding the subject application are to be directed.

I further grant Mark W. Croll, Reg. No. 31,098, Illinois Tool Works Inc., 3600 West Lake Avenue, Glenview, Illinois 60025, telephone (847)657-4073, an associate power of attorney. As stated above, all correspondence should be directed to GEORGE R. CORRIGAN, Reg. No. 34,803, Corrigan Law Office, 5 Briarcliff Ct., Appleton, WI 54915.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Inventor's Sig.

  
L. Thomas Hayes

Date: 6/14/99

Citizenship:  
Residence (if different  
from above)

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Inventor's Sig.

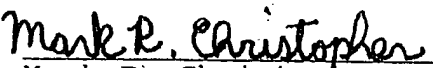
  
Kenneth C. Altekruze

Date: 6/14/99

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Mark R. Christopher

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